

**Cedar River Anadromous Fish Committee**

**Summary Minutes**

**February 16, 2006**

**Meeting Time 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

**Meeting Location:**

**Metering Building, Second Floor Conference Room  
SPU Operations Control Center  
2700 Airport Way South  
Seattle, WA**

**Members and Alternates Present:** Bruce Bachen (SPU), Phyllis Meyers (NMFS), Steve Foley (WDFW), Eric Warner (MIT), Bill Robinson (Public), Hans Berge (KC)

**Other Participants:** Brodie Antipa (WDFW) and Paul Faulds (SPU)

**Public:** *None present*

**Presentations by:** Reg Reisenbichler (USGS), Nick Gayeski (WA Trout), Hans Berge (KC), Paul DeVries (R2 Resources) via telephone, George Pess and Earl Prentice (NOAA) via telephone.

**Call to order**

*Bruce B. called the meeting to order at 9:10 AM.*

**Approval of agenda**

*The agenda was approved.*

**Meeting minutes review and approval from January 19, 2006**

*Steve F. recommended a minor change to the minutes from January 19, 2006. Members unanimously approved the January 19, 2006 minutes as amended.*

**Interim mitigation program for coho, chinook and steelhead**

*Bruce spoke briefly about the proposals for review and the process for evaluation. He noted that the United States Geological Survey (USGS) and Washington Trout (WT) were collaborating on the use of the otoliths and if both projects were selected there would be some cost savings.*

***A proposal by Reg Reisenbichler and Kim Larsen with USGS Western Fisheries Research Center (WFRC) that uses otolith analysis to assess the importance of lake rearing for Cedar River Chinook salmon.***

*Reg R. provided members with a PowerPoint presentation titled: Proposal to assess the importance of lake rearing for Cedar River Chinook salmon. He explained how the WFRC would attempt to analyze otoliths from adult salmon to estimate the proportion of juvenile salmon that reared in Lake Washington as juveniles, and estimate the residence time and growth in the lake for these fish.*

***Washington Trout proposal to address the RFP question: What is the relative survival rate to adult for Chinook fry and smolt leaving the Cedar River?***

*Nick G. used a PowerPoint presentation titled: Determining Juvenile Chinook Habitat Use History from Otolith Microchemistry to provide members with an updated version of the WT proposal. He noted that the proposal addressed the AFC research priority on the relative survival rate to adult for*

*Chinook fry and smolt leaving the Cedar River. The project was designed to analyze microchemistry in otoliths and scales of juvenile and adult Chinook from the river and Lake Washington basin.*

***A proposal by Hans Berge and Dan Eastman (KC), Roger Peters and Roger Tabor (USFWS) to understand the role of active side-channels in the Cedar River in providing rearing habitat for juvenile Chinook salmon.***

*Hans B. briefly described his project from a handout. He noted that data from observations of Chinook use of side channels would complement work done by Roger Peters for a Chinook habitat utilization project funded by the Instream Flow Commission (IFC).*

***A proposal by George Pess, Earl Prentice, and Peter Kiffney (NOAA) to develop a Permanent Passive Integrated Transponder (PIT) reader at the mouth of the Cedar River.***

*George P. and Earl P. accessed the meeting via the telephone. George P. stated the proposal had two phases and the first was to test the feasibility of developing a large PIT tag reader at the mouth of the river.*

***A proposal by Paul DeVries from R2 Resources that identifies the need for continued PIT tagging in the Lake Washington Basin.***

*Paul D. accessed the meeting via the telephone. He stated the tunnel PIT tag readers are still attached to the flumes. To continue reading PIT tags the data system needs to be reconnected and readers need to be tuned.*

***O. mykiss genetics study final report peer review***

*Bruce B. updated members on the peer review for the WDFW O. mykiss genetics report. He noted that because Fred Utter was not available to serve as peer review coordinator until the fall and recommended using Dr. Bernie May with the University of California, Davis. He noted that Craig Bussack with WDFW was consulted and supported the selection.*

## **Sockeye Mitigation**

***Recommendation on Cedar River Hatchery Documents***

*Bruce summarized the Cedar River Hatchery Documents that were mailed to members. He noted they were similar to what the AFC reviewed in 2003; however some documents have been updated with new information.*

*Steve F. made the following motion: The AFC supports the recommendations contained in the Project Summary – Cedar River Sockeye Hatchery document and recommends that the Parties accept this as a description of the design, capacity, operating guidelines and adaptive management features of the replacement sockeye hatchery. Bill R. seconded. Bruce asked if there was any discussion. Brodie A. said he has been involved with the project since the beginning and the City did a great job. Eric W. said it is a very robust document. The motion passed unanimously.*

***2005 Fry Trapping Report Comments***

*Bruce complemented WDFW for completing the document in a timely manner. He provided members with a short list of comments.*

***Sockeye Hatchery appeal to Superior Court***

*Judith Noble attended the meeting to brief the AFC about the appeal to Superior Court by Roz Glasser. She said the Superior Court Judge decided that the appellant was entitled to judicial review of the Seattle Hearing Examiner's decisions. The records from the HE hearings will be provided to the Judge and he will review it with briefs from both sides. A decision from Superior Court will*

*probably take 3-4 months. Judith said there are two possible outcomes: (1) the Superior Court Judge decides that the HE made an error in one or more of her decisions. In this situation there would be a remand for further analysis at the HE level or (2) the judge agrees with the decisions of the HE and then it would be up to the appellant as to whether to pursue an appeal to the State Appellate Court. If it is remanded it will be based on a procedural error.*

***Brood year 2004 Marking Report***

*Members had no comments on the brood year 2004 Marking Report.*

***Landsburg Fish Counts and Data Distribution***

*Hans B. recommended SPU provide an in season count for salmon passed above Landsburg on the City website. He requested fish passage by date, species, number, sex, handled, clipped, and what DNA was taken. Brodie A. recommended any data distributed should be identified as preliminary until reports are finalized.*

***Interim mitigation program for coho, chinook and steelhead - Continued***

*Bruce asked members if they could participate in a conference call next Thursday to vote on the proposals. Members agreed. He asked members to forward their recommendations and comments on the proposals to SPU by next Wednesday, noon.*

***Adjournment***

*The meeting adjourned at 2:00 PM*